

DELHI 'MOHALLAS'- the evolution of a neighbourhood and its CPTED.

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Abstract:

India is the one of the fastest growing economies of the world and a progressive democracy. Yet all efforts towards securing the burgeoning population need to be constantly updated in the face of a unique socio-economic revolution and the specific terror threats from volatile neighbours.

The capital city of Delhi, is also the nucleus of the urban & real estate revolution sweeping the country. What is the link between the peculiar pattern of urbanization and the ever climbing crime rates ? How does this hectic 'development' stack against the CPTED principles in the creation of secure settlements?

The 'mohallas', ie. neighbourhoods of Delhi (including the one that the author belongs to) have metamorphosed in their urban character and security challenges. An insider and in-depth analysis of the demographic, social and economic profile of this urban growth, lays bare the underlying interplay of CPTED techniques. The focus is to understand how universal the CPTED theories are and yet how diverse their contextual manifestations can be.

The research is able to identify CPTED concepts that are traditionally steeped in the Indian psyche. The study discovers distinct trends of Indian socio-urban transformation which have a direct interplay with the CPTED essentials. Many interesting contextual manifestations of the basic principles are found in the governance and organic patterns. These seem contradictory at first but actually are unique responses based on the underlying CPTED ideology in the atypical disposition of Delhi.